

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1146

By Kurita

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Major General David H. Petraeus for meritorious service.

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their personal safety and concerns to ensure our individual and collective freedom, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to honor those many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, thousands of individuals continue this time-honored tradition of volunteerism through service in United States Army; and

WHEREAS, Major General Petraeus is one such esteemed soldier who has served with courage and gallantry and deserves proper recognition for his astute service with the 101st Airborne Division of the U.S. Army both at Fort Campbell, Kentucky and in its efforts in Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom; and

WHEREAS, Major General Petraeus has served with great bravery and ability as Commanding General of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) at Fort Campbell from July 24, 2002 to May 14, 2004, during which time his astute service culminated with the Division's deployment, combat, and stability operation in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom; and

WHEREAS, an inspirational leader, Major General Petraeus worked assiduously to ensure the safe deployment of the Division and achieved deployment of the entirety of the Division's equipment in an amazingly short ten days without a serious incident; the Division was ready to cross into Iraq on March 20, 2003, a feat that was quickly accomplished through Major General Petraeus's keen insight and ability to adapt; and

WHEREAS, over a span of 48 days, the 101st Airborne Division traveled over 1200 kilometers, while liberating the cities of An Najaf, Al Hillah, Karbala, southern Baghdad, and Mosul and overpowering a large portion of the Iraqi Army and irregular forces; and

WHEREAS, once combat operations were completed, Major General Petraeus and the 101st Airborne Division continued their service in Iraq through effective stability and support operations to rebuild Iraq; Major General Petraeus held command over 37,000 coalition soldiers who occupied over 40,000 square kilometers in Northern Iraq; and

WHEREAS, upon the completion of operations, Major General Petraeus guided the smooth transition of powers and redeployment, conducting successful retrograde operations to Kuwait while soldiers were partially redeployed from Northern Iraq through Turkey to the United States, all the while ensuring that key equipment was rapidly shipped to the home station in preparation for future use; and

WHEREAS, Major General Petraeus has set the standard in all that he and the Division attempted and his leadership, dedication, achievement, and service to our Nation have distinguished him as an altruistic soldier of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Major General Petraeus performed his duties with the utmost skill and professionalism; his service can only be categorized as outstanding; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Major General David H. Petraeus for his meritorious service as Commanding General of the 101st Airborne Division of the United States Army and offer our thanks for a difficult job well done.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.